(e) what safeguards have been taken to keep Indian coasts beautiful?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) Yes, Sir. The Coastal Regulation Zone (CRZ) Notification was issued on 19th February, 1991 for protecting and conserving the coastal environment of the country.

(b) to (d) Government has issued a Draft Notification on 11th January, 2002, inviting objections/suggestions from all concerned on the proposed amendments which *inter-alia* include setting up of non polluting industries in the field of information technology and other service industries in the CRZ-III areas of notified Special Economic Zones. Comments/objections have been received both for and against the proposed amendments which would need to be examined before finalizing the notification.

(e) Regulation of developmental activities in the coastal areas as provided in the Coastal Regulation Zone (CRZ) Notification, 1991, *inter-alia*, helps in preserving the natural beauty of the India's coastal areas.

Wildlife traffic control cell

†2818. SHRI DEVI PRASAD SINGH: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether wildlife traffic control cell has been set up;

(b) if so, whether it has been established on the basis of recommendations of a Committee constituted in August, 1994;

(c) if so, within how much time the said Committee had submitted its report, giving the details regarding the areas of the country visited by that Committee; and

(d) what would be the main functions of the said cell?

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) Yes, Sir. A Wildlife Crime Cell has been set up at National level.

(b) and (c) The Central Government Constituted a Committee under the chairmanship of Dr. S. Subramanian on 24th May, 1994. The Committee submitted its final report on 8th August 1994 i.e., in 2 months and 16 days. The Committee visited Madras, Calcutta, Bombay, Bangalore and protected areas like Nagarhole, Bandipur, Mudumalai, Dudhwa, Borvili and Kaziranga and studied various issues related to illegal trade and wildlife protection in the country. Of the several recommendations made by the Committee one pertained to setting up of a Wildlife Crime Cell. The Government, having due regard to the available financial resources and the policy on right sizing the infrastructure has set up a Wildlife Crime Cell under the charge of Joint Director (Wildlife).

(d) The functions of the Wildlife Crime Cell are:

(1) Intelligence gathering on wildlife, poaching and illegal trade from various NGOs in the field of wildlife conservation and various enforcement agencies and intelligence organisations of Government of India.

(2) Collation, synthesis and interpretation of information collected from various enforcement organisations.

Transaction of genetic material

†2819. SHRI BALKAVI BAIRAGI: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that earlier the transaction of genetic materials like seeds, plants and reproductive fluid was carried out free of cost, with mutual understanding, without any rules;

(b) whether it is also a fact that now every country is presenting its right on Bio-diversity, more firmly;

(c) if so, whether Government propose to formulate rules for the

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.